

Serial No. 08/854,349

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 12-18, and 20-23 are pending in the application. By way of this Amendment, all of the pending claims except for claims 20 and 23 have been canceled.

The drawings have been amended to show the claimed contiguity evaluation process. No new matter has been added because the claimed contiguity evaluation process is described, for example, beginning at page 6, line 27, and at the bottom of page 8 of the as-filed specification.

A Terminal Disclaimer is submitted herewith to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 20 and 23. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claims 20 and 23 are in condition for allowance.

Subject matter of non-rejected claims 2, 3, 7, 13, 14, and 18 has been placed in new independent claims 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, and 29, respectively. It is thus respectfully submitted that these new claims are clearly in condition for allowance.

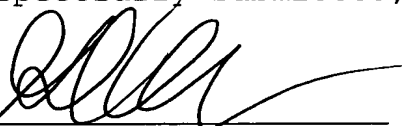
New claims 30 and 31 are similar to claims 24 and 27 except for the preamble and the last several lines.

It is thus respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

A Petition for a three-month extension of time is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

October 8, 1998  
Date

  
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